

things on the ballot last night. Yesterday, the deep blue State of New York—New York, the home of the Senate majority leader—had two of America's signature proposals for weaker elections actually on the ballot as ballot measures. Citizens got to vote directly on whether to open the door to two changes that the politicians wanted: same-day registration and no-excuse absentee voting, on the ballot in New York yesterday.

And as of the latest tally a few minutes ago, both proposals were losing. They currently are both losing about 60/40. Even in deep blue New York, citizens appear to be rejecting the Democrats' demands for weaker elections.

So I think there is only one question left: Where will the Mets and Yankees end up now?

Surely Major League Baseball can't let them stay in New York after this.

I urge a no vote.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The VICE PRESIDENT. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the standing rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 143, S. 4, a bill to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to revise the criteria for determining which States and political subdivisions are subject to section 4 of the Act, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Patrick J. Leahy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Thomas R. Carper, Richard J. Durbin, Catherine Cortez Masto, Margaret Wood Hassan, Raphael Warnock, Gary C. Peters, Patty Murray, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Jacky Rosen, Elizabeth Warren, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tina Smith, Alex Padilla, Amy Klobuchar.

The VICE PRESIDENT. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to S. 4, a bill to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to revise the criteria for determining which States and political subdivisions are subject to section 4 of the Act, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

(Ms. ROSEN assumed the Chair.)

(Ms. BALDWIN assumed the Chair.)

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 459 Ex.]

#### YEAS—50

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Peters
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Kaine	Rosen
Booker	Kelly	Sanders
Brown	King	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Sinema
Carper	Lujan	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Tester
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murkowski	Warnock
Feinstein	Murphy	Warren
Gillibrand	Murray	Whitehouse
Hassan	Ossoff	Wyden
Heinrich	Padilla	

#### NAYS—49

Barrasso	Graham	Risch
Blackburn	Grassley	Romney
Blunt	Hagerty	Rubio
Boozman	Hawley	Sasse
Braun	Hoeven	Schumer
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Johnson	Shelby
Collins	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lankford	Thune
Cotton	Lee	Tillis
Cramer	Lummis	Toomey
Crapo	Marshall	Tuberville
Cruz	McConnell	Wicker
Daines	Moran	Young
Ernst	Paul	
Fischer	Portman	

#### NOT VOTING—1

Rounds

Mr. SCHUMER. I vote no.

The VICE PRESIDENT. On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 49.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is not agreed to.

The motion was rejected.

#### MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I enter a motion to reconsider the failed cloture vote.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The motion is entered.

#### MOTION TO DISCHARGE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, pursuant to S. Res. 27, the Committee on the Judiciary being tied on the question of reporting, I move to discharge the Committee on the Judiciary from further consideration of Jennifer Sung, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Under the provisions of S. Res. 27, there will now be up to 4 hours of debate on the motion, equally divided between the two leaders, or their designees, with no motions, points of order, or amendments in order.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, for the information of the Senate, we expect to vote to discharge the nomination to occur following the votes that are scheduled to begin at 5:15 tonight. Therefore, Senators should expect three rollcall votes at 5:15 p.m. These votes will be on the confirmation of the Prieto and Nayak nominations and on the motion to discharge the Sung nomination.

#### JOHN LEWIS VOTING RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT ACT

Madam President, in reference to what just occurred on the floor in terms of voting rights, this is a low, low point in the history of this body. A few moments ago, Senate Republicans, for the fourth time this year, were presented with a simple question: Will they vote in favor of starting debate—merely a debate—on protecting voting rights in this country?

In today's case, they would join Democrats in proceeding to the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, which would reinstate longstanding and widely embraced Federal protections on the right to vote.

With just one exception, Republicans once again obstructed the Senate from beginning its process. Given the chance to debate in what is supposed to be the world's greatest deliberative body, Republicans walked away.

Today's obstruction was only the latest in a series of disturbing turns for the Republican Party. For over a half a century, the policies of the Voting Rights Act have commanded bipartisan support in this Chamber. It has been reauthorized five times, including by Presidents Nixon, Reagan, and Bush. Many of my Republican colleagues in office today have worked in the past to improve and approve preclearance provisions similar to the ones contained in today's proposal.

It was good enough for Republicans back then; it should have been good enough for them today. But after today's vote, it is clear that the modern Republican Party has turned its back on protecting voting rights. The party of Lincoln is becoming the party of the Big Lie.

Democrats have laid out the facts for months: we are witnessing at the State level the greatest assault on voting rights since the era of segregation. Before our very eyes, the heirs of Jim Crow are weakening the foundations of our democracy.

And by blocking debate today, Senate Republicans are implicitly endorsing these partisan actions to suppress the vote and unravel our democracy.

We have said all year long that if there is anything worth the Senate's attention, it is protecting our democracy. We have tried for months to get Republicans to agree. We have lobbied Republicans privately. We have gone through regular order. We have attempted to debate them on the floor.

We have presented reasonable, commonsense proposals in June, August, October, and now in November. Each